Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of the Claims:

1-22 (cancelled).

- 23. (currently amended) Device comprising a first hollow profile (10) and a second hollow profile (10_a) arranged approximately at right angles to one another, each of which the first hollow profile (10) has a profile channel (14) concentric to a profile longitudinal axis (A) of the second hollow profile (10a) and also, in at least one profile side surface (20) of the first hollow profile (10), an undercut longitudinal groove (22) parallel to the profile longitudinal axis (A), wherein the first and second hollow profiles (10, 10_a) are held together by a connecting screw (30, 30_a), a shaft (32) of which engages in the profile channel (14) of the first hollow profile (10) and a screw head (36, 36_a) of which is mounted in the undercut longitudinal groove (22) of the second hollow profile (10_a), wherein the screw head (36, 36_a) is provided on its periphery with grooves or notches (43) which run in planes extending from the shaft longitudinal axis (M) and form ribs (44) between them, wherein the screw head (36, 36_a) of the bolt (30, 30_a) is arranged in a groove space (26) of the second hollow profile (10_a) and an insertion head (56) of a tool is integrated, which is integrally formed at one end in a round profile (54), said insertion head having longitudinal notches (58) in its peripheral surface (57), wherein a protective section (66) of a protective surface (60) bears against the peripheral or outer surface (57) of the insertion head (56), said protective surface being releasably fixed to the round profile (54), wherein the protective surface comprises a protective plate (60) having a holding section (62) which is radial with respect to the axis (Q) of the round profile (54) and surrounds the round profile (54) and also a lateral section (64) which is bent out from the surface of said holding section, on which the lateral section the protective section is integrally formed in an inclined manner.
- 24. (original) Device according to claim 23, wherein the screw head $(36, 36_a)$ tapers conically towards a head surface $(50, 50_a)$ remote from the shaft (32) and a wall surface (42) which is inclined at an angle (w) with respect to the shaft longitudinal axis (M) is provided with the grooves or notches (43) and ribs (44).
- 25. (original) Device according to claim 24, wherein the angle (w) is approximately 45°.
- 26. (original) Device according to claim 24, wherein the screw head (36, 36a) has, between a

Reply to Final Office action mailed August 19, 2008

shaft-facing connection surface (38) and the inclined wall surface (42), an annular section (40) of constant diameter (g) in which the shaft-facing ends of the notches (43) and of the ribs (44) form a crenellated edge pattern (45).

27. (previously presented) Device according to claim 24, wherein the inclined wall surface (42) ends at a radial step surface (46) and the radial step surface (46) surrounds in an annular manner an integrally formed top body (48) of the screw head (36), said top body (48) having a head surface (50) (Fig. 2).

28. (cancelled).

29. (cancelled).

30. (original) Device according to claim 23, wherein the shaft (32) of the connecting screw (30, 30_a) is provided with a cutting thread (34).

31-38. (cancelled).

39. (currently amended) Device according to claim $\underline{23}$ [[38]], wherein the diameter (q) of the round profile (54) of the tool (52) is shorter than a depth (e) of the groove space (26) of the hollow profile (10, 10_a).

40. (currently amended) Device according to claim <u>23</u> [[38]], wherein the peripheral surface (57) of the insertion head (56) tapers conically.

41. (previously presented) Device according to claim 40, wherein an angle (y) between an axis (Q) of the round profile (54) and the peripheral or outer surface (57) of the insertion head (56) is approximately 20° to 40°.

42. (cancelled).

43. (cancelled).

44. (currently amended) Device according to Claim <u>23</u> [[43]], wherein the lateral section (64) runs at a radial distance from the round profile (54).

U.S. Appl. Ser. No. 10/566,885 Amendment AF dated November 19, 2008 Reply to Final Office action mailed August 19, 2008

45. (currently amended) Device according to claim 41, wherein [[an]] the angle (y) between [[an]] the axis (Q) of the round profile (54) and the peripheral or outer surface (57) of the insertion head (56) is approximately 25°.